



# IMPORTANT CANADIAN PASSPORT TIPS



IMPORTANT INFORMATION about the safekeeping and use of your new passport

Your passport remains the exclusive property of the Government of Canada, and you are the only person who may use it. Misuse of this travel document could result in criminal proceedings, revocation of the passport or future ineligibility for passport services.

## Check your new passport

**Make sure** the personal information in your new passport is correct. Contact us immediately if you find an error.

**Sign your name in ink** on the signature line on page 3 of the passport. Please note that the Canadian passport no longer contains a pre-printed digital signature on page 2.

**Parents/legal guardians must never sign a child's passport.** Signing your child's passport will make it invalid. Although children under the age of 16 **do not need** to sign the passport, children between the ages of 11–15 are encouraged to sign it. If it is not signed by the child, the signature block on page 3 must be left blank. A signature by a child under the age of 11 **does not invalidate** the passport.

**At the bottom of page 4**, write your address in the space provided. In the space below, write the name, relationship to you and contact information of someone who does not usually travel with you and whom we can notify in case of emergency.

**Note:** Your photo has been incorporated into the passport as a digital image. You may notice variations in colour as a result of this process.

**Be sure to check the back page** of your passport for smart travel tips and advice.

## Safekeeping

As the custodian of this passport and any other travel document previously issued to you or your child, it is your responsibility to keep them in a safe and dry place at all times. You can help prevent water damage to your passport by storing it in a plastic folder or a waterproof wallet.

When you are not travelling, your passport should be stored in a secure location in your home, where it is not easily accessible to others.

## Before you travel

**Passport validity/expiry date:** Check the expiry date of your passport (on page 2) before planning a trip. Many countries require that your passport be valid for several months after the date you plan to leave. Each country sets its own rules, so you should consult the travel advice and advisories at [travel.gc.ca/advice](http://travel.gc.ca/advice) to confirm the requirements of each of your destination countries.

**Check the Government of Canada's official travel advice and advisories** for each destination country at [travel.gc.ca/advice](http://travel.gc.ca/advice). You will find up-to-date, country-specific advice on safety and security, entry and exit requirements, health concerns, local laws and culture, and natural disasters and climate for more than 220 destinations worldwide.

Order or download a copy of *Bon Voyage, But... Essential Information for Canadian Travellers* and other publications for advice on safe and responsible travel at [travel.gc.ca/publication](http://travel.gc.ca/publication).

## Visas

**It is your responsibility** to contact the Government of Canada office of each destination country well before you plan to leave on your trip to find out if you need a visa to enter the country or to stay for a longer period of time. If you do need a visa, you must apply for the visa right away. For more information, go to [travel.gc.ca/travelling/documents/visas](http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/documents/visas).

If you must send your passport to a visa office, we recommend that you use a courier service that allows you to track your shipment. Along with your visa application, provide a pre-paid, self-addressed envelope for the return of your passport. Keep a record of the tracking numbers on the mail labels, so that you can track both the delivery and the return of your passport. A list of foreign government offices in Canada is available online at [international.gc.ca/foreign-representatives](http://international.gc.ca/foreign-representatives).

## During your trip

**Always keep your passport safe**, and never divulge your travel document information, unless it is absolutely necessary. A Canadian passport is a valuable document that should be kept in a safe place at all times. Do not leave it unattended in your luggage, vehicle, hotel room or elsewhere.

**If your passport is lost or stolen**, report the loss or theft immediately to the Government of Canada's Passport Program at 1-800-567-6868 (in Canada) or the nearest Government of Canada office (outside Canada).

**Important: If you find the passport** that you had already reported lost or stolen, do not use it. It has been cancelled electronically by the Passport Program and, therefore, will no longer be valid for travel, which may cause problems at the border. **It must be returned immediately** to a Passport Canada Office, local Police Service, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) station or, if you are outside Canada, to the nearest Government of Canada office.

**If your passport is damaged**, you could face significant delays, be denied entry at border crossings, or be denied boarding on flights. Submit a new general passport application along with the damaged passport to obtain a replacement. If your passport was damaged while travelling, contact the nearest Government of Canada office, or contact us using one of the phone numbers provided below.

## Stay connected

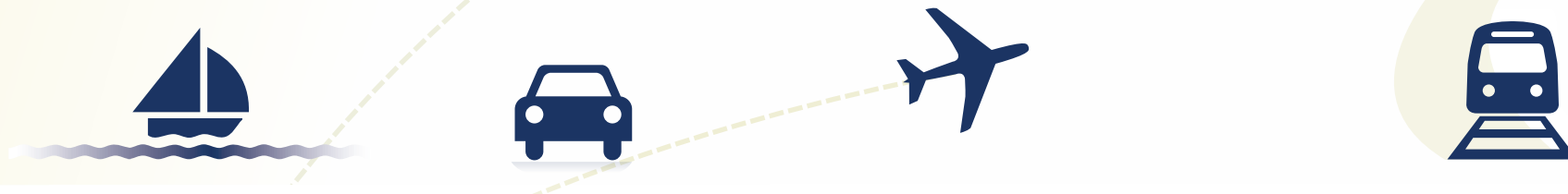
**Sign up for the Registration of Canadians Abroad service** at [travel.gc.ca/register](http://travel.gc.ca/register) so Global Affairs Canada can contact you and assist you in case of an emergency at home or abroad.

**Subscribe to travel updates** for the latest safe travel news at [travel.gc.ca/updates](http://travel.gc.ca/updates) or check [@TravelGoC](https://twitter.com/TravelGoC) or Facebook ([/TravelGoC](https://facebook.com/TravelGoC)) channels for safe travel news.

## For your return to Canada

All air travellers, including Canadian citizens, need to have appropriate documents to travel to Canada before they can board their flight. If you are a **Canadian citizen and a citizen of another country other than the United States**, be sure to travel with a **valid Canadian passport**.

**Have your valid Canadian passport on hand.** It proves you have a right to enter Canada.



## Contact us

Website: [Canada.ca/passport](http://Canada.ca/passport)

Toll-free number (Canada and the United States): **1-800-567-6868**

From outside Canada and the United States **1-819-997-8338**

TDD (for the hearing-impaired)  
Toll-free number (Canada and the United States, from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET): **1-866-255-7655**

From outside Canada and the United States: **1-514-283-5197**

## For daily travel updates

Website: [travel.gc.ca/updates](http://travel.gc.ca/updates)

Twitter: [@TravelGoC](https://twitter.com/TravelGoC)

Facebook: [/travelGoC](https://facebook.com/travelGoC)



[facebook.com/passportcan](https://facebook.com/passportcan)

[twitter.com/passportcan](https://twitter.com/passportcan)

[youtube.com/passportcan](https://youtube.com/passportcan)

## If you have problems abroad:

- › **Contact** the nearest Government of Canada office ([travel.gc.ca/offices](http://travel.gc.ca/offices));
- › **Call** the Emergency Watch and Response Centre in Ottawa at **1-613-996-8885** (collect from most countries);
- › **Send** an email to [sos@international.gc.ca](mailto:sos@international.gc.ca); or
- › **Visit** [travel.gc.ca/emergencies](http://travel.gc.ca/emergencies).

## Nearest Government of Canada office to your destination

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your passport number: \_\_\_\_\_